

## The Renewal of Our Hope\*

*My Christ-Loving brothers and sisters;  
Light-Wrought children of Orthodoxy:*

**T**oday we participate yet again in universal joy!

**We enjoy** a foretaste of the renewal of the entire world!

**We celebrate** the liberation of creation from corruption and death!



**We are intoxicated** with a sacred and sober inebriation, partaking of the Uncreated Glory of God, Who is revealed to us as a communion of Three Divine Persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

**We renew** our hope within the sanguine perspective of history and creation.

**We behold** the world with the *eschatological eye* of our most holy Orthodox Faith. Nothing will be destroyed, nothing will disappear; rather, all things will be recast and renewed in the furnace of

the Uncreated Grace of God. We shall live thenceforth in a new earth and new heavens: “[for] we look for new heavens and a new earth”!

**But** even now, from this time forth, through the personal, collective, and liturgical “invocation” of the Divine Comforter, “Come and abide in us,” we experience very vividly the renewal of our existence, the renovation of creation, and the illumination and deification of the entire world.

**Every** moment, at each and every “now,” eschatological renewal becomes a present reality through the Church and in the Church.

**The glorious future** becomes a luminous *present!*

**The Light** of the *Eighth Day* irradiates the “now,” the “ever,” and the ages.

**“Draw water,”** therefore, my Christ-Loving brothers and sisters, “draw water” today “with gladness from the well-springs of salvation”! “Be strong, ye palsied knees”!

**Shake off** all of the despondency and affliction that come from the gloom of everyday human life.

**Take courage!** Take courage! Draw forth light, peace, life, and hope!

**Renew** your spiritual identity!

**Become** bearers of light, peace, life, hope! Become Christ-Bearers and God-Bearers!

“Greater is Christ that is in us than the Antichrist that is in the world”!

**I convey** to you this inspiring and hopeful outlook both from our much-revered Archpastor, Metropolitan Cyprian of Oropos and Phyle, and from the honored members of the Holy Synod of our Old Calendar Orthodox Community in resistance.

May “the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God the Father, and the communion of the Holy Spirit” inundate our pious nation and the whole of humanity, with the prospect of the reconciliation and unity of all in Christ, our God and Savior. Amen!

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\* *Delivered by His Grace, Bishop Cyprian of Oreoi, Acting President of the Holy Synod, during the solemn celebration of Holy Theophany in Oropos, Attica, on January 6, 2008 (Old Style).*